



Hazard Alert – Water-Related Fatalities



17 water-related fatalities since 2004 in metal/nonmetal

Working Near Water Hazards

HAZARD - Working around / over / near water

POTENTIAL OUTCOME - entrapment, drowning

RISKS – Travel or equipment operation near water's edge; equipment weight and vibration; undercut banks, sloughing ground; varied water depth; swift currents.

Best Practices

- Conduct daily workplace examinations
- Be familiar with the body of water, water depth and subsurface conditions before you begin work
- Keep equipment well back from the water's edge
- Avoid traveling close to the water's edge
- Avoid traveling over ice-covered water
- Provide handrails around docks and work boats
- Properly berm roadways near water hazards
- Wear a Coast Guard – approved Type I or Type V personal flotation device (PFD) when working around water
- Mount rescue rings in easily accessible locations
- Know where extra PFDs and rescue rings are stowed
- Practice good housekeeping and keep travelways clear around water hazards
- Post warning signs near water hazards

